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REMARKS

Claims 6, 7 and 10-35 were pending in this application and Claims 6, 7, 12-18 and 22-35 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 10, 11 and 19-21 are rejected.

Reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 10, 11 and 19-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saperstein et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,265,437, in view of Redfern et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,850,006. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Saperstein discloses an automotive refrigeration system for air-conditioning passenger compartments in vehicles and/or providing for the cooling of cargo carried by the vehicle. The system includes a compressor 38, condenser 44 and an evaporator 62. The condenser 44 includes a liquid flow path 46 in heat exchange relation with a refrigerant flow path 48 and the same is connected by conduit 52 to heat exchanger 36. The evaporator 62 also includes a liquid flow path 65 in heat exchange relation with a refrigerant flow path 60 and the same is connected by conduits 66, 67 to at least one heat exchanger 68, 69 remote from an engine compartment 22 in which the compressor 38, condenser 44 and evaporator 62 are housed.

Redfern teaches a portable cooler 10 having a built-in cooling unit 12 and quick connector assemblies adapted to be connected into an automotive air conditioning system whereby the portable cooler 10 may be conveniently located in the trunk area but readily removable. The portable cooler 10 includes an insulated cabinet 30 within which is located a cooling unit 12 that includes 40 designed to receive a quantity of liquid coolant 48. Immersed in the liquid coolant 48 is a heat exchange coil 50 including a quick coupling unit 54.

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Applicants can not find any teaching or suggestion in either Saperstein or Redfern of a dual circuit refrigeration system using a refrigerant to cooling liquid heat exchanger to transfer heat between the refrigerant and the cooling liquid as is claimed in independent claims 10 and 19. In contrast, Saperstein and Redfern show a single circuit refrigeration system where all of the refrigerant is passed through a single compressor with multiple evaporators in series. To establish prima facia obviousness of a claimed invention, all claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In Re Royka, 490 F.2d 980; 180 U.S.P.Q. 580 (CCPA 1974). In this case, since Applicants can not find any teaching or suggestion in either Saperstein or Redfern of at least one of the elements recited in independent claims 10 and 19, there is nothing that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to attempt to modify the Saperstein or Redfern references to include such elements. Accordingly, Applicants believe the attempted combination of Saperstein or Redfern must fail and that independent claims 10 and 19 and claims 11, 20 and 21 dependent thereon are patentably distinguishable over the prior art references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, Applicants believe that claims 10, 11 and 19-21 are in condition for immediate allowance. It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims in the application are allowable over the prior art of record. Early notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 28, 2005

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Date: February 28, 2005

Barbara L. Katowich

(type or print name of person certifying)

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